

APPENDIX A

(marked up copy showing the changes to the paragraphs amended herein)

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at page 3,
line 17:

-- Briefly, the present invention provides a system and method whereby a client application hosting a browser notifies a server of its existence. Upon recognizing the client application as an enhanced client, the server provides enhanced operating functionality to the client, such as by enabling continuous, silent and automatic state synchronization with a secure website that is designed for use both with and without the client application. --

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph beginning at page 10,
line 9:

-- In general, the present invention provides a method and system via which a client application 60 (FIG. 2) of a client machine_A (such as the computer system 20) notifies a server 62 of its existence, enabling continuous, silent and automatic state synchronization with a secure website 64 that is designed for use both with and without the client application 60. To this end, the system and method include a highly flexible architecture as described below that enables the client application to [identity] identify itself to the server without modifying the code of existing browsers. While the present invention was originally implemented in a financial environment and thus includes financial-based client and server examples, it should be understood that the present

invention is not limited to financial applications, but instead has numerous applications throughout user computing. Moreover, although the various components are shown and described herein as separate components because of certain benefits resulting from separated functionality, it can be readily appreciated that some or all of the components may be combined into more complex components, and/or separated even further into additional components. --

Please substitute the following abstract for the abstract on page 34:

--ABSTRACT

A method and system via which a client application hosting a browser notifies a server of its existence, whereby the server provides enhanced operating functionality, such as state synchronization, to the client. [The enhanced functionality may include enabling continuous, silent and automatic state synchronization with a secure website that is designed for use both with and without the client application. Before a client application requests]Instead of requesting a server's normally-accessible website, [the] a client application [instead] provides a URL to a hosted browser to access a [special, otherwise] hidden web page. The hidden web page [writes] returns awareness information (e.g., a "cookie") [to a client storage] identifying the client as an enhanced client[. The hidden page then], and also automatically forwards the client to the [requested website, whereby] server's normally-accessible website. Based on the awareness data, the server distinguishes [the] enhanced clients from ordinary clients, and modifies its behavior accordingly. For example, [because the server has knowledge that the client application is present,] the server and client application may communicate in

the background, such as to synchronize the client application's data with server state information. To synchronize, the server data may be written into a client storage mechanism, or the server data may be passed [through the client browser as a tagged image file or a file resembling a media file.] in a page. --